



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Meeting Minutes 03/12/2007

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
 3/12/07

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*	Fey*	Dunn*	O'Neill*	Mahoney*
DeCoursey	Connors	Simmons*	Bayer*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Al Senesi, Capital Planning Committee Members Charlie Foskett (Chair), Steve Gilligan, Ruth Lewis, John FitzMaurice, Tony Lionetta

MINUTES of 3/7/07 accepted as amended. Unanimous.

ART 55 LIBERTY RIDE: Senesi, using a handout, request support for a committee to investigate bringing this tourist business to Arlington. He does not need any funds. The FinCom expects the BoS to report on this article. Kneeland to confirm.

BUD 4 PERSONNEL: Personnel SubCom (O'Neill) explained the need for a new position, to be funded from the health insurance budget, to handle the demand for help w/ health insurance issues. There will be some savings from better accounting for participation in health insurance plans. VOTED \$179,228. 11-2

ART 45 CAPITAL BUDGET: Foskett, using a handout & assisted by other CPC members, presented the capital budget & plan. After reviewing capital planning policy and current projects, they described major projects for FY08. These include library repairs, Stratton & Thompson repairs, Thorndike parking & Stratton Field upgrades (part of a new Park & Rec 10 yr plan), the W&S & road plans in DPW, Community Safety Bldg repairs. Fire Station work depends on outcome of ongoing study. The rink chiller will be covered by the EF but \$1.8m rink upgrade bonds may need to be covered from the general fund. FinCom members asked many questions. VOTED \$8,360,046 as detailed on page 19 of the handout.

ART 61 TOWN & SCHOOL BUDGETS: Foskett presented, using a handout, his study of the health care budgeting issues raised by Gordon Jamieson on 2/5 under this article. He stated that the health care budget should have a "positive bias" in order to account for the unforeseeable changes in the enrollee population. According to the figures Foskett presented this bias has run around 2% in recent years or \$200k. The FinCom believes that these unspent funds are returned to free cash annually. If the bias were eliminated, a reserve would be required elsewhere. The suggestion to use Medicare reimbursements as a health insurance offset is in the hands of the BoS who control the health insurance contracts. The BoS wants to put this money into the OPEB fund. VOTED no action on Article 61. Unanimous.

BUD 17c COMMUNITY SAFETY SUPPORT: Community Safety SubCom (Simmons) recommended the budget as printed. The reduction in expenses is justified by actual expenses. VOTED \$633,957 Unanimous

BUD 21b VETERANS SERVICES: Human Services SubCom (Franclemont) noted a \$30k increase in veteran aid is justified by the increase in case load. No overrun is expected in FY07. VOTED \$223,311 Unanimous.

ART 46 RESCIND AUTHORITY TO BORROW: Finances SubCom (Foskett) said no rescissions are needed. VOTED no action. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE: Human Services 3/12, Town Manager articles, School Infrastructure 3/21, Education Budget 4/4.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$350,000

Peter B Howard Secretary 3/13/07 Revised 3/14/07
 cc FinCom Members, Selectmen, Town Manager, Comptroller, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site

VOTE SUMMARY-Budgets

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Amount	Vote Unlisted votes w ere unanimous
1	FinCom	2/26	2/26	\$10,778	15-1
2	Board of Selectmen	2/26	2/26	\$343,723	
3	Town Manager	2/26	2/26	\$432,326	
4	Personnel	3/12	3/12	\$179,228	11-2
5	Comptroller	3/7	3/7	\$830,407	
6	Treasurer	3/5	3/5	\$552,840	13-0-1
7	Postage	3/5	3/5	\$135,160	13-0-1
8	Assessors	2/26	2/26	\$286,221	
9	Legal	2/26			
10	Town Clerk	2/26	2/26	\$221.957	
11	Registrar of Voters	2/26	2/26	\$61,787	15-1
12	Parking	3/5	3/5	\$90,766	13-0-1
13	Planning	2/26	2/26	\$208,782	
14	Redevelopment Board	2/26	2/26	\$480,777	
15	Zoning Board of Appeals	2/28	2/28	\$22,296	
16	Public Works				
17a	Community Safety Admin	3/7	3/7	\$343,148	
17b	Police	3/7	3/7	\$5,289.617	
17d	Support	3/12	3/12	\$633,957	
18	Inspections	3/7	3/7	\$328,342	
19	Education				
20	Library	2/26	2/28	\$1,811,090	
21	Health & Human Services				
22b	Veterans	3/12	3/12	\$\$223,311	
22	Retirement	2/28	2/28	\$6,706,719	
23	Insurance				
	Workmans Comp	2/28	2/28	\$490,000	
	Unemployment	2/28	2/28	\$100,000	
	Liability	2/28	2/28	\$300,000	
24	Reserve Fund	2/28	2/28	\$400,000	
W&S					
Rec					
Rnk					
COA					

VOTE SUMMARY – Articles

#	Title	Date Heard	Date Voted	Result Unlisted votes w ere unanimous
18	Data Processing Department Transfer	2/21	2/21	Jones to draft vote
26	Pension Funding	2/21	2/21	No action
27	Health Care Trust Funds	2/5	2/21	No action
39	Collective Bargaining			
40	Future Collective Bargaining			
41	Salary Adjustments/Elected officials			
42	Carbon Bank	2/5		No report
43	Energy manager	2/5		Carman – Belmont plan How ard-Vision 2020
36	SPED Fund			
45	Capital Budget	3/12	3/12	\$8,360,046
45	Rescind Authority to Borrow	3/12	3/12	No action
47	Minuteman Tech	3/5	3/7	\$3,276,622 12-5
48	Tow n Celebrations			
49	Committees & Commissions			
50	Miscellaneous			
51	George St Sidew alk	2/21		Need more info
52	School Facilities Working Group			
53	Sew ers			
54	Water			
55	Liberty Ride	3/12		No report - BoS
56	Pension Adjustments	2/21	2/21	Favorable action
57	Transfer Retiree Health Care Funds	2/21		Tosti to draft vote
59	200 th Anniversary Committee	2/21	3/7	\$6200 13-4
61	Tow n & School Budgets	2/5	3/12	No action
62	Harry Barber Program	3/7	3/7	\$7,500
63	Minuteman Senior Services	3/7	3/7	\$9,818 15-2
64	Revaluation	2/21	2/21	\$325,000
65	Tip Fee Stab Fund			
66	Cemetery			
67	Overlay Reserve			
68	Stabilization Fund			

69	Free Cash			
72	W&S Health Insurance Offsets	2/5		Finances Sub to investigate